THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Thursday, the 9th March 1950.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at eleven of the clock, the Deputy Chairman (SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU) in the Chair.

I.—INFORMATION *RE* ABSENCE OF QUESTION LIST.

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, I find that there are no questions to-day. If you have advisedly omitted them, I do not question your discretion. But if it is due to the fact that answers have not been received, may I point out that some of the questions are as old as two months and request you to take necessary steps to see that the answers are received? Otherwise, the rule of seven days' notice becomes very ineffective."

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN :—" I think all questions have been sent up to the departments concerned, but the answers have not been received. As and when they are received, they will be brought before the House."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" I hope you will take necessary steps to get the answers without undue delay."

[*Note.*—**An asterisk (*) at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.**]

II.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR 1950–51—*cont.*

* DR. V. K. JOHN :—" Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, at the conclusion of his Budget speech the Hon. Finance Minister hoped that all Members would help the Government by constructive criticism only, appreciating the limitations within which the Government have to function. From the Press report of the proceedings in the other House and from the speeches made in this House, I find that his hope has not been fulfilled. There was no appreciation but there was much criticism. Most of the criticism came not from the Members of the Opposition but from the Members of the Congress Party. I am very much gratified to find that the Members of the Congress Party feel that they are there not in the Houses of Legislature merely for voting purposes but that they should contribute to the discussion and criticize the programmes and policies of the Government wherever necessary. I find that there is no difference between the attitude of the Opposition and the attitude of the supporters of the Government except in one matter. The Opposition in this House does not want to sling mud on the Ministers. Much to our regret and the regret of the people in and outside our State, an attempt is still being made to sling mud on the Ministers. At the instance of certain Members of the Congress Party, three of our eminent national leaders, men who could be world leaders, conducted an enquiry into the allegations